

NEWS BY THE MAILS.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1890.

The Secretary of the Treasury—Congressional Proceedings—Supreme Court.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, it is supposed, will be completed to-night, the greater portion of it having been copied out, and in the hands of the printer. If it is completed to-night, it will be sent to Congress to-morrow. The statistics already published, as well as the arguments in the President's message, show the outline of the Secretary's report; the report itself will merely be an elaboration. The public, therefore, can wait patiently for its advent.

In the House, to-day, Mr. Harris, of Illinois, introduced a bill to provide for reciprocity with Canada, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce. Some years ago this Canadian reciprocity scheme passed the House smoothly enough, under the judicious nursing of the Governor elect of New York, the Hon. Washington Hunt. It fell through, however, in the Senate, notwithstanding Mr. Hunt's eloquence on the occasion. Since then, it has been passed upon Congress with a good deal of zeal; but the feeling in its favor appears to be on the decrease. It is generally considered as affording all the advantages to Canada, and none to this country; the effect would be to complete the tariff, but the feeling in its favor appears to be on the decrease. It is generally considered as affording all the advantages to Canada, and none to this country; the effect would be to complete the tariff, but the feeling in its favor appears to be on the decrease.

The feeling in the House since Mr. Giddings' tirade yesterday, is more harmonious than ever, and a marked disposition prevails to drop all agitation upon sectional or political grounds. The bill, therefore, is considered as a public benefactor, his investive as disqualifying all who heard him, as to have a most soothing and palliative effect. If a Southern fanatic could be induced to give a speech either side, the effect would be complete. In the Senate, to-day, the Hon. Mr. Walker, of New York, introduced a bill to amend the act of March 3, 1879, relating to the duties on imports from the United States. Mr. Walker labored to show that Mr. Hay's various offices against the government, of commission, seizure, &c., were not and lawfully, and that the bill would not be a court below to show the charges, taking the ground that an official cannot charge extra compensation for his services to the government, beyond the salary allowed him by law. The effects of the bill would be to complete the tariff, but the feeling in its favor appears to be on the decrease.

By the way, the House came near taking up the consideration of the River and Harbor bill in committee—the negative being decided by the casting vote of the chairman, Mr. Stewart, of Pa. It will, undoubtedly, be taken up to-morrow, but the decided majority being in favor of it. Cheap postage also got the go-by to-day.

Generals Foy and Downs took their seats to-day in the Senate, and their advent appeared to give great satisfaction to all except Mr. Benton and Mr. Seward.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1890.

The House—Land Reform—River and Harbor—The Tariff—Cheap Postage—A Great Effort and a Sorry Failure.

The House, to-day, set out with the best intention in the world to get business; and as the River and Harbor bill was about the most popular on the calendar, a desperate struggle was made to reach it; but the Pennsylvanians, who are determined to have something done for the tariff as soon as possible, conspired with the enemies of internal improvement, and prevented the bill from being reached.

A motion was made, also, to go into the consideration of that greatest of all bills for Buncombe—the bill to grant away the public domain to everybody, in form of 160 acres each. The subject was too large, however, for the House to consider to-morrow. But if this land reform business does not materialize, appropriate every acre of the available public domain before 1892, we may expect a Northern candidate to run upon that hobby. If it yielded, at the present session, it would be a great success.

We have great hopes of the success of the River and Harbor bill, and of a bill for cheap postage, reducing the charge to three cents, prepaid, upon half-ounce letters. The House may be considered a sure thing; but the Pennsylvanians may as well give up their calculations for coal and iron; because a tariff which yields more money than is actually needed, stands too firmly to be budged by a mere inconvenience of an insufficient bounty upon coal and iron.

The Senate to-day confirmed Mr. Bayard, (H. J.) of Philadelphia, formerly of Delaware, to Brussels; and Mr. B. Haddock, of New Hampshire, a nephew of Mr. Webster, to Lisbon, in place of Mr. Clay, resigned.

Our Baltimore Correspondence.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 11, 1890.

The Land Excitement on the Increase—Tickets Commanding High Premiums—Barnum's Temperance Lecture.

The excitement in Baltimore with regard to Miss Lind, exceeds anything that has, I think, been experienced in New York, Boston, or Philadelphia. People are stark mad, and no mistake, since the first concert was given. Tickets for the concert to-night can be had for neither love nor money, and for to-morrow night, all the choice seats were taken yesterday. Early yesterday morning, there was a great rush at the theatre, but before half of those that desired seats could obtain them, the speculators stepped in and laid down the money for all the seats. The rush was consequently turned to the house, and the tickets were selling for \$6, and \$5 tickets for \$10. Those who bought at this price in the morning, and went away grumbling, were offered an advance of \$2 and \$3 before the doors were closed. The excitement is now becoming a matter of course, and those who have heard her in New York and Philadelphia, declare that she exceeded all previous efforts. Certain it is, that no one seemed to think that they had not right to get a seat. The grand and parquette seats for this evening command \$10 and \$15 to-morrow.

Barnum delivered a lecture last night, before the Sons of Temperance, and was greeted by a crowded audience. He was very successful in his efforts to entertain them, as he does how to furnish entertainments.

Our Philadelphia Correspondence.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1890.

Thanksgiving—Stearns City of Glasgow—Material Disappearance—New Warehouse—The Opera, &c.

New Jersey and the interior of Pennsylvania have poured their quota of thanksgiving turkeys, and other species of the poultry kind, into our markets, and extensive preparations are making by our good housewives to have well-spread tables to-morrow.

The City of Glasgow steamer sails to-day from Liverpool, bound to this port, and may be expected to arrive about Christmas day. Arrangements are making for an extensive celebration of the event, and a grand display of fireworks is projected, with glorification in the shape of a dinner. The subscription for an additional steamer is, however, progressing but slowly, and our men of capital seem to be devoid of the proper spirit, that should assist them in order to accomplish the undertaking.

Benjamin Stratton, a young man about 13 years of age, the son of the better of the same name, North Sixth street, has mysteriously disappeared since Sunday afternoon, and his relatives are in great distress. There was no known party who had been leaving the city, but he may have been induced to visit New York.

James Godfrey, Esq., who has recently invested about \$200,000 in the erection of warehouses in a new street opened from Dock to Front, treated his friends, to-day, to a grand entertainment—in R. B. Jones's best style—for the purpose of commemorating the completion of his gigantic undertaking. The whole number of stores erected is twenty-one, three of which extend from Granite street to Walnut; and in connection with the stores, there is a vault beneath the railway the whole length and width of the street. A large number of the stores have been leased by the government for bonded warehouses.

The Italian opera had a fine audience, last evening, and the new heaters in the building had not time to be tested, the dampness generated by being closed up for so long, and the heat was not sufficient to warm and comfort the audience. This is to be remedied before the next performance. The orchestra was divided, by part being put in the adjoining boxes, and, therefore, not as effective as it will be on Friday evening, when "Carmen" will be given, with a cast improved by the appearance of Truffi, and other performers. The chorus and orchestra is also to be augmented, additional space being afforded to accommodate them better.

Important to Holders of Texas Claims.

In the Texas Western Claims, of the 30th. November, we have seen the necessity of the matter, and from which we take the following passages, so important to the holders of claims upon the State.

There is now no law in force, which would enable the holders of claims upon the State to obtain compensation or indemnity for such public revenues and property as were transferred to the United States by special legislation, but the law in force at the time of the transfer of the claims shall be applied to the claims of the United States for, or on account of said bonds or certificates.

It is to be regretted that Congress was not more specific in defining this article, the mode of ascertaining and making known the amount of the claims, and the time within which the claims should be presented, or that it had not deemed the relinquishment of the State of all liability on the part of the United States, as was ascertained by the law in force at the time of the transfer of the claims shall be applied to the claims of the United States for, or on account of said bonds or certificates.

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